

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 remain in this application. According to the Office Action, the reply filed by Applicants on December 11, 2006 ("December Amendment") was not fully responsive to the office action mailed on November 16, 2005 ("November Office Action"). The Office Action, however, incorrectly asserts that the December Amendment was responding to the November Office Action. Rather, as noted in the December Amendment, the December Amendment was in response to an office action mailed on June 8, 2006 ("June Office Action"). Applicants had previously addressed the November Office Action in an amendment filed March 9, 2006 ("March Amendment"). Applicants have noted that the June Office Action was not uploaded by the USPTO into PAIR. Thus, Applicants submit a copy with this response.

Accordingly, Applicants assert that the December Amendment was fully responsive to the prior office action, namely the June Office Action.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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